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ALUMNIAGARA

PUBLISHED BY NIAGARA COLLEGE ALUMNI OFFICE

Career on City-TV not just a desk job

Everyday at six o'clock many people make it a habit to watch the news to find out what's happening in the world as they unwind from their day. Typically, they are watching a news team of a man and woman sitting behind a desk, a sports reporter behind that same desk, a weather person in front of a giant map and perhaps an entertainment reporter, also behind a desk.

But if you're watching CITYPulse at Six, you're not watching your typical broadcast - and your not watching your standard newscasters.

A large part of the CITYPulse team is Anne Mroczkowski, a 1975 graduate of the Broadcasting - Radio, Television and Film program.

CITYPulse is different from other newscasts. The no-chairs-allowed format puts CITYPulse on the cutting-edge of news broadcasting, says Mroczkowski.

She says that presenting the news on your feet is much more difficult than the behind the desk format.

"It's definitely more difficult, there are times when I'm doing a voice-over and I'm in the midst of moving from one place to another. I could be in the middle of a stairwell or a hallway and you can hear me.

"I find the traditional news broadcast plodding and static," she said. "The movement creates a kinetic energy. The anchor desk creates a barrier between the audience and the anchor. There were times where I could wear a nice blouse or a jacket and shorts!"

Life at CITY-TV began in 1978 for Mroczkowski when she left her job as a writer at Global TV. Once at CITY, she climbed the corporate ladder in traditional style.

She began as a writer, then to reporter, onto weekend anchor, late-night anchor, and then to supper hour on the six o'clock news.

Although many people use CITY-TV as a career stepping-stone, this is just not true in her case.

"I've had offers from other stations in Canada and the States. CITY is not a compromise for me. "she said. "I have a lot of very personal reasons why I haven't moved. I've had a lot of change and challenge in my career here. The working day is pleasure; it's amazing that I get paid for this."

On the other hand, long hours and a very lean newsroom, make for a long, hard working day.

"We work extremely hard here, but one thing that is very important is the rapport between the entire crew," she said. "There's no resentment in our newsroom; we don't have people fighting for the lead story.

"You hear stories of people who work together who don't get along, I just can't imagine that."

One of those people who is very important to Mroczkowski's on-camera career is co-anchor Gord Martineau.

"I have the utmost respect for Gord," she said. "We have developed a chemistry and it shows off our strengths. We also get along very well, and I think that shows."

Because CITYPulse has adopted a non-traditional style of presenting the news, many people think they are the young radicals of the supper hour.

"We are probably one of the oldest newsrooms in Toronto," the 40-year-old Hamilton native said. "We offer a lot of life experience."

A career in broadcast journalism was something Mroczkowski always wanted to pursue. Working in front of the camera, however, was not her first choice.

"I was interested in electronic media so I took Journalism at Carleton University," she said. "But radio and television were very minor at Carleton - it was mainly print journalism."

After graduating from Carleton, Mroczkowski headed to Niagara College where she spent "many long hours into the evening" working on various College projects.

"I worked really hard while I was at Niagara. But I don't think there's any college program that can prepare you for work in the real world.

"I mean, you learn on the job. School can prepare you for what to expect, but things are much different once you start working."

Once a writer at CITY, her first on-camera experience was one of her most memorable.

Mroczkowski was interviewing people on how hot the weather was and admits she was extremely nervous, which is hard to believe today as she coasts through the one-hour newscast.

"My face is frozen and my knuckles are so white they seem to jump out at you," she said.

Mroczkowski still dabbles in reporting, but admits that the most interesting stories would make her day too difficult.

"I do about three stories a week and that makes my working day very difficult," she said. "They're usually event-oriented. I have to compromise as a reporter (to be anchor) and do some of the less interesting stories."

CITYPulse news anchor Anne Mroczkowski.

But who's going to argue when you work in one of the most-watched television station's highest profile positions and everywhere you go, you're recognized.

"No, I'm not uncomfortable with that," she admits. "But it's phenomenal how many more people recognize me from the supper-hour time slot. I couldn't believe it at first."

We're looking for nominations

Deadline - Sept. 10, 1993

The deadline is fast approaching for nominations to the Premier's Awards for Graduates of Ontario's Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology.

The awards were launched in 1992 to honor the 25th anniversary of the college system and were presented for the first time last fall.

The Niagara College nominees were Heather Kilty in Applied Arts, Robert French in Business, Lynda Rose in Health Sciences and David Bessey in Technology.

The 1993 Premier's Awards will be presented in February 1994. Each of the recipients will receive a Premier's Award medal, specially designed by sculptor Dora de Pédery-Hunt. In addition, a $5,000 bursary prize will be directed to the college of each winner's choice.

Nominees should be people who have made an important contribution to society. They need not be rich and famous, but a real commitment to others and substantial career success should be evident in the nominee's achievements.

If you wish to nominate someone, send the person's name and telephone number with a short rationale to: Glenn Pevere, Director of Student Services, Niagara College of Applied Arts and Technology, 300 Woodlawn Rd., P.O. Box 1005, Welland, Ont. L3B 5S2. Tel. (416) 735-2211 or Fax. (416) 735-5365. Please include your name and phone number.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 16

That's the date of our Second Annual Niagara College Homecoming which will take place at the Welland Campus. This year's event features a "*Come as You Were*" Party, a euchre tournament and a great chance to get together with old friends and reminisce. Don't miss it!

See the centrespread for details.

Take note, parents

A message to parents of Niagara College Alumni:

In some cases you may be receiving the ALUMNIAGARA intended for your son or daughter. This is due to the fact the only address we have is the home address he or she used while attending Niagara College.

Please forward this copy. Or better yet, use the Lost Graduate coupon on page 7 to notify us of your son or daughter's address so we can mail ALUMNIAGARA directly to them and not trouble you further. Many thanks for your help.

Forward your new address

If You've Recently Moved -

Canada Post has forwarded this issue of ALUMNIAGARA to you — but they are unable to give us your new address. To notify the College of your new address and ensure future communications, please call the Alumni Office or return the "Lost Alumni" coupon on page 7.

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Foundation/Alumni Office, Niagara College of Applied Arts and Technology
P.O. Box 20162, Grantham Postal Outlet, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada L2M 7W7

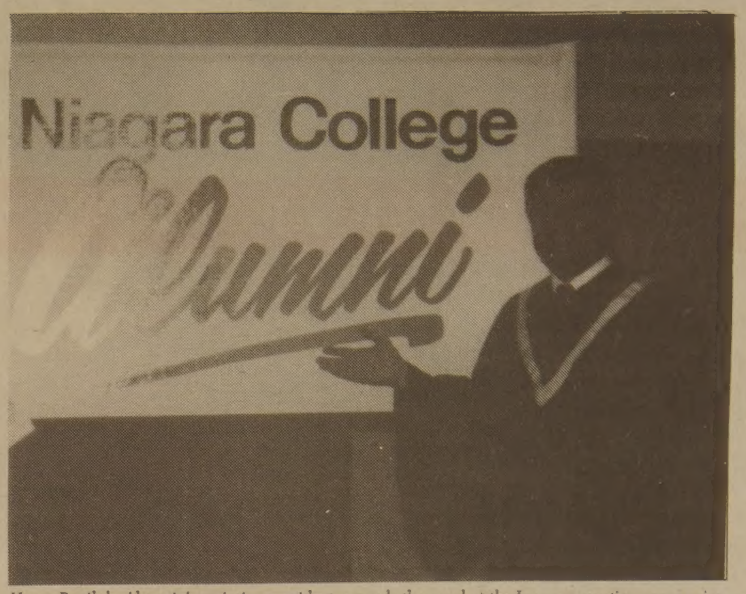
From Alumni Association President

Fellow Alumni:

When an institution is only 25-years-old, there's still plenty of room to start new "traditions." I was called upon to continue one of Niagara College's newest traditions — it was inaugurated only last year — in my role as President of your Alumni Association.

The accompanying photograph shows me at the Alumni infomation booth at the convocations in June. It was my pleasure to be present at all three convocation ceremonies to welcome our newest fellow alumni into the Association, the largest part of the Niagara College "family."

The 1993 convocations came at the end of a year that began with the celebration marking the first quarter century of the Ontario college system. And what a period of rapid growth these past 25 years have been for Niagara. I know that many of you "old-timers" will find it hard to believe that the College may have 5,000 full-time enrolees this September (and up to six times that number enroled in continuing education courses in 1993-94)!



Harry Popiluk, Alumni Association president, spreads the word at the June convocation ceremonies.

It's no secret why Niagara College has developed its reputation as a leader in career education. There's no need for modesty here. A college rises or falls according to the accomplishments of its graduates, and we — you — have done Niagara proud. And that's the challenge I presented to our newest alumni: "Now it's *your* turn to go forth to add to this fine record by your own achievements." Come to think of it, perhaps this record of achievement is Niagara's oldest, and proudest, tradition.

One last note: One of the messages I stressed at convocation was this: "Become involved." These words are equally valid whether you graduated in the '60s or the '90s. Homecoming '93 on Oct.16 is rapidly approaching, and I can't think of a better way to become involved than by joining in the fun. I hope to see you there helping me support another new Niagara College tradition.

Sincerely,
Harry Popiluk
President
Niagara College Alumni Association

Help us fill grab bags

In order to spice up Homecoming '93, the Alumni Association plans to hand out grab bags and door prizes during Saturday afternoon and evening activities.

To make these grab bags exciting and different, we need your help. We're looking for donations for the grab bags which will be given to alumni as they register. Some suggestions include key chains, calendars, pens, discount coupons, virtually any type of promotional item.

The door prizes will be distributed throughout the evening at the *"Come as You Were"* party, which will be held in the cafeteria. If you have items to donate, please contact the Alumni Office at (416) 988-5211.

Also, the Alumni Association would like to see a working network among graduates. You are encouraged to send your business card to the Alumni Office so we can post it at Homecoming '93.

Kamminga wins the top award

Wayne Kamminga of St. Catharines was this year's winner of the Governor General's Award.

Kamminga, who graduated in June from the Computer Programmer program, had an average of 98.3 per cent and completed the two-year program in only one year.

The Governor General's Award is presented to the student with the highest academic standing at each of Ontario colleges and universities.

Kamminga graduated from the DeVry Institutes's Electronic Engineering Technology program in 1982, has his Certified Engineering Technologist (C.E.T.) designation and has 10 years experience in the field. When he was laid off from his job, he decided to return to school for more training.

"My last position was as a consultant in the computer manufacturing field on the software side," Kamminga said. "I think the programming was easier for me since I had so much experience with the end result we were trying to achieve."

In Memoriam

The Alumni Association extends its condolences to the family and friends of the following Niagara College alumni:

Paul Doan - Class of '91, who passed away as a result of a car accident on Feb. 28, 1993. Paul was a graduate of the College's Industrial Maintenance Mechanic program.

Margaret Pyle - Class of 79, who passed away as the result of a car accident on Jan. 15, 1987. Margaret was a graduate of the College's Chemical Engineering Technology program.

The Niagara College family mourns the loss of the these and other alumni who have passed away.

Editors Note: If you wish to have a family member or friend remembered in the In Memoriam section of ALUMNIAGARA, please forward the information and a picture, if desired, to the Niagara College Alumni Office, Niagara College of Applied Arts and Technology, P.O. Box 20162, Grantham Postal Outlet, St. Catharines, Ontario, L2M 7W7.

College will be at the Schools and Skills Show

Representatives from Niagara College will be attending one of Canada's largest and most comprehensive education exhibitions this fall.

Niagara will have its own booth with information about all programs and it will also be part of a co-operative island display on the tourism and hospitality industry organized by the Ontario Tourism Education Council.

The 1993 Schools and Skills Show will be held from Oct. 21 to 24 at the Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place, Toronto.

Last year more than 15,000 people attended the show, which creates a live network connecting potential students of all ages with today's leaders in education, career guidance, skills training and upgrading.The organizers expect attendance to top 25,000 this year.

The 1992 event was attended by more than 4,000 secondary schools on one week day. It has been expanded in order to provide for more secondary school access.

"Attending this show will provide Niagara College with an audience from several sectors of society," said Lyn Russo, College director of Marketing and Communications. Not only secondary students will have the opportunity to find out about Niagara College, but government agencies, industry training programs and human resources departments of various companies across the country will be able to find out what's happening at Niagara College."

If you live in Toronto and would like to volunteer some time at the Niagara College booth, please call Lyn Russo at (416) 735-2211, ext. 7775. Potential students like to talk to graduates because they can get first-hand information about their experience at the College and what it is like in the work world today.

Father and son business started in furnace room

When Albert Coote decided to go into business for himself in 1983, he worked out of the furnace room in his west St. Catharines home.

He had about 19 years experience as a plumber and spent much of that time supervising the installation of plumbing and heating systems in large commercial and institutional projects for a major mechanical contractor.

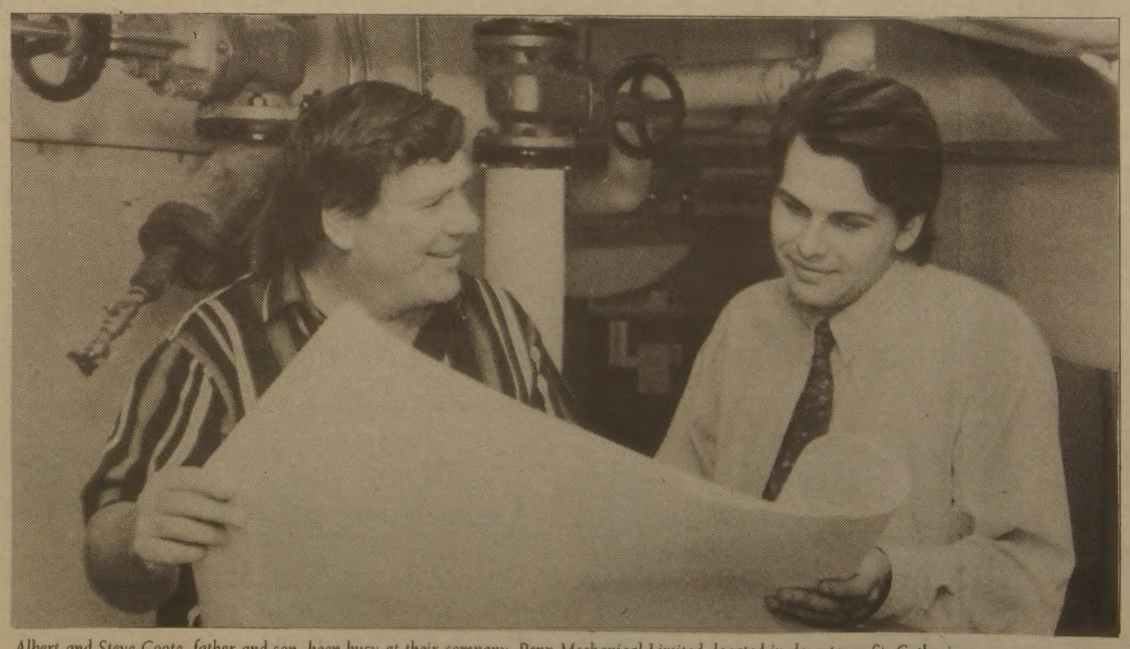
In less than 10 years, Coote's company, Penn Mechanical Ltd. on Church Street in St. Catharines, has evolved from its humble beginnings to projects carrying million-dollar price tags.

Its growth was marked recently when the compnay made Profit magazine's 1992 list of Canada's 50 fastest growing companies.

Between 1986 and 1991, revenues rose 901 per cent from $150,000 to $1.5 million. Revenue this year is expected to top $2.2 million.

"I remember the first job we did," laughs Coote's son, Stephen, who manages the office and handles bidding and estimating. It was a $1,600 residential plumbing project.

"The type of thing where you buy (the material) on your Visa and hope the owner pays you."



Albert and Steve Coote, father and son, keep busy at their company, Penn Mechanical Limited, located in downtown St. Catharines.

That first job is a far cry from the firm's largest project - a recently completed $1.7 million redevelopment of the plumbing and heating systems at Linhaven Home for the Aged on Ontario Street, St. Catharines.

The two-year project helped the company "coast" through the recession, said Albert, 48.

"During the recession, we've been the busiest we've ever been," he said. "We had our main project that kept the wolves away from the doors ... (and) with that we got a handful of other projects."

Since finishing the Linhaven job, the company has landed a $400,000 job installing plumbing and heating systems for a public works building for the Town of Fort Erie, said Stephen who believes this year will be "difficult" as the recession lingers.

"Meat and potato jobs," - ones that keep a company busy for six to 12 months - are "few and far between," he said.

"We're surviving, probably like most people are right now, (but) we're not going home buying brand new cars."

Albert says the father-and-son team work well because "we complement each other."

Stephen, 25, joined the company full-time in 1987 after graduating from Niagara College's Retail Management program. He admits he's a "lousy" field worker, and Albert hates the paper work.

Albert said he is especially happy the company has helped foster a close working relationship with his son.

"I think it's great to be able to be that close with your son; not very many businesses can do it."

(The previous story was written for and published in the St. Catharines Standard by Standard reporter Nancy O'Brien. Photo by Bob Tymczyszyn).

Highlights of 1992-93 at Niagara

Just before the start of the academic year Niagara was selected as the area broker for the government's jobsOntario•*Training* program. As broker, the College administers some $14 to 16 million dollars available to eligible employers in the Niagara Region for employee training programs.

Full-time enrolment for September shattered all records with almost 4,700 students registering - a 15 per cent increase over the previous year. The Registrar's office anticipates close to 5,000 students for the 1993-94 academic year.

The College adopted a new logo which marked the first time the College changed its logo since its inception in 1967. The design was chosen from more than 100 entries to the Logo Search Contest. The winner was Grimsby's John D. Frame, whose design depicts a graphic representation of Niagara Falls. The logo is being gradually introduced on all signage, stationery and promotional items.

Niagara's professional chefs no longer have to leave to area to obtain their Chef de Cuisine designation as a result of a new partnership among our Hospitality and Tourism Centre, the Niagara Industrial Training Advisory Corporation (NITAC) and the Canadian Federation of Chefs de Cuisine (CFCC). Niagara offered the first nationally recognized accreditation program last fall with NITAC funding.

Photos from left: John Frame, winner of the Logo Search contest; participants in the first annual College Challenge take part in one of the zany activities; and Peter Kormos (left), MPP Welland-Thorold congratulates President John Saso at a media conference to announce Niagara College as the broker for the jobsOntario•*Training program in the Niagara Region.*

In November, Niagara became the first community college in Ontario to initiate its own Crime Stoppers program.

The Technical Skills Training Division offered a new apprenticeship, the Pool and Spa Installation and Service Technician Program. The Canadian Spa and Pool Association (CANSPA) gave its full support to the program, the only one of its kind in Canada.

Niagara was selected to manage the new Community Enterprise program under jobsOntario•*Training* which provides entrepreneurial training to eligible people who are interested in being self-employed.

The College received more than $100,000in January through the jobsOntario•*Capital* program for the improvement of facilities, addressing such things as health and safety issues, including the accessibility for disabled students.

Niagara became the first community college to pilot delivery of a new province-wide tourism industry training program in partnership with the Ontario Tourism Education Council (OTEC).

In April, the first Niagara College Graphic, Radio, Film and Television Image (GRAFITI) awards were presented to students excelling in radio, television and film arts.

Niagara College became the focal point of the college system in June when it hosted the First Annual College Challenge, modelled after the popular Corporate Challenges.

Later that month, more than 230 people honored 22 Niagara College retirees at the First Annual Retirement Banquet held at the Ameri-Cana in Niagara Falls.

Retirees included William Walker, James Weller, Marvin Nash, Thomas McGuinness, Austin Jelbert, Elizabeth (Bette) Ferguson, Jennie Balasak, Anderson Ferguson, Morris Bosey, David Lawrence, Janet Arnott, Pat Della Valle, Thomas Bowes, Frederick Bridgeman, Eleanor Bull, Alice Moss, Rosemary Cawthorne, Patricia Panetta, Thelma Lloyd, Ariel Wadsworth and Philip Scoones.

Star behind the scenes

By Greg Beaulieu

In its 25-year history, Niagara has graduated a number of students who have gone on to tremendously successful careers - one of those grads is Mike Kukucska.

The 24-year-old Welland native is a 1988 graduate of the now defunct Theatre Arts program. Since graduation, Kukucska has seen a multitude of successes.

Today, he works as a tradesman carpenter for Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Shaw Festival is the second largest repertory theatre in North America.

Kukucska started at the festival while still a student at Niagara.

"Actually, I had to ask for time off to go back to the College to write my exams," he recalls.

While at the Shaw Festival, Kukucska became the youngest tradesman carpenter in the festival's history, and, at 20 years old, became the youngest full union member of the International Alliance of Theartrical Stage Employees.

He now enjoys a thriving carpenter business of his own (in addition to Shaw position) and intends to open his own shop.

"The basis for the confidence I have now was created at Niagara College," Kukucska said, crediting the strength of the Theatre Arts program for his present success.

He said he remembers the tremendous amount of hours necessary and the difficulty of the program.

"When I started in the program there were 50 people and only 20 of us graduated," he said.

Was it all worth it?

"Yes," he emphasized.

In addition to gaining hands-on, practical experience and theoretical knowledge, Kukucska learned the value of teamwork, respect for ideas, co-operation and how to deal with people.

"There's nothing more important that learning how to deal with different people," he said.

Kukucska uses his own advice in his day-to-day life and he recently married.

Handicapped child touches grad's life

There comes a time in everyone's life when a career decision has to be made - a decision which will affect the rest of their life.

For Tracy Chabot it was no different.

Her choice, however, was a little "Goofy".

Chabot, a graduate of Niagara College's Tourism program, was working in the Attractions division of the Canadian Pavilion at Epcot Centre in Orlando, Fla., when she was faced with her career decision: return home to Port Rowan, Ont. to live and get married or stay in Florida?

Her decision was made for her when she introduced the Disney character Goofy to a young girl in a wheelchair.

"When I put their hands together her face lit up and she started crying," said Chabot. "The characters are something special to people. It was the turning point in my career."

Chabot still married the man she loved (he too works for the Disney corporation), but she returned to Florida to resume her career which started as a result of the Tourism - Tours and Attractions program at the College.

In 1987, Chabot obtained a J-1 Visa to work in Orlando as part of her co-op in the Tourism program. Within the next five years, she transferred to the Guest Relations division of the Disney corporation and was promoted to her current position of Guest Relations Supervisor.

As superviser, Chabot is in charge of scheduling the 120 employees who work for her. On an average week, the Guest Relations department answers 40,000 calls regarding Walt Disney information on anything from ticket prices to accommodations. The department is also responsible for such things as foreign translation and V.I.P. tours of the property.

Chabot said her job has introduced her to some interesting people, including former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and his family, with whom she spent five days.

"They are the best family because they are so tight," said Chabot.

Chabot, 28, lives in Orlando, Fla. with her husband of four years and their two-year-old son. She enjoys working for Disney, but she still misses her home.

"I miss the seasons and the wildlife," said Chabot, "but I wouldn't trade it (her job) for anything."

For now, Chabot plans to stay where she is, but has a dream she would like to fulfil someday.

"I'm pretty happy with the company as a whole," said Chabot. "I think I'll stay in Guest Relations for one or two more years and then move to operations.

"But I would love to come back and own my own 20-room bed and breakfast in Long Point (Port Rowan, Ont.)."

"I had some of the best instructors at Niagara College and some really good friendships were built. I still keep in touch with some of my friends from the College."

"If I had it to do it over, I would take Tourism again because of what I learned. It was the best experience ever."

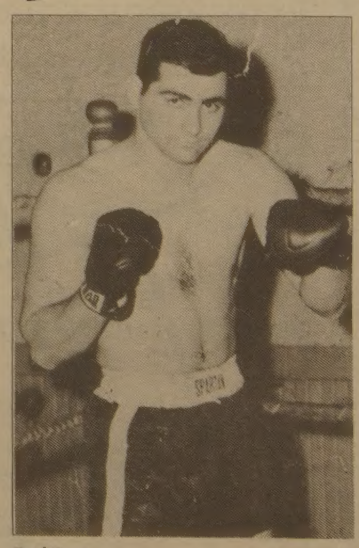
Hockey coach once boxed

After taking the Niagara Knights hockey team to five championships in the past 23 years, and having gone through a series of mixed fortunes last season, coach Fred Bassi says the Niagara still has great sporting potential.

"Niagara College has always been represented well in sports," he said. "I like Niagara College because I understand the students and they understand me. The staff at the college in general work well together and I can see the College getting better and better each year."

A Physical Education degree graduate from Boston University in Massachusetts, Bassi, 47, teaches Physical Education to Law and Security Administration students, helps run intramural sporting programs, and coaches the Niagara Knights - the College's hockey team.

"I've got to see the students in three different manners: I've got to see them as athletes; I've got to see them as students in class, and I've got to see them when they organize their games and fun during the intramural activities," he said. "I've always enjoyed working with the students, they make a good group to work with."



Fred Bassi

Last season, the Niagara Knights had mixed fortunes. In their first nine matches, they lost eight and drew one. In the last seven, they lost two, won four and tied one. Bassi was confident the team will improve.

"We started off rather badly. We were a little nervous at first, going back into our own (Ontario Colleges Athletic Association) league. The second half of the year, we had a better hockey team than before, and if the students are going to be as good this year, we're going to have a decent team."

He said his greatest moment in his coaching career is when he took the Knights to the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) playoffs in 1990 and won during overtime.

"Beating the most favored team in overtime to win the championship was my greatest moment with the College," he said. "We had a fair team that year but nobody gave us a chance to win the championship."

Standing five foot eleven, the 210-pound ex-Ontario Amateur Heavyweight Boxing champion also played right wing for the Syracuse Blazers in the Eastern Hockey Division for two years from 1968, before joining the College in 1970.

He took a swing at amateur heavyweight boxing between 1979 and 1989 with a career record of 27 wins and 13 losses.

"My greatest fight was when I won the Ontario Amateur Heavyweight Boxing Championship in 1979 on a three-round unanimous points decision," he said.

He ended his boxing career with a first-round knockout win in 1989.

Married with a daughter and two sons, Bassi said when he is not coaching at the College, he likes watching his 17-year-old grade 12 son play hockey.

"I don't really do anything fancy in my free time," he said. "I watch a lot of hockey matches. I particularly like watching my son play hockey."

His daughter, 22, is studying Accounting at Brock University, and his elder son, 21, has been with the U.S. Marine Corps for two years.

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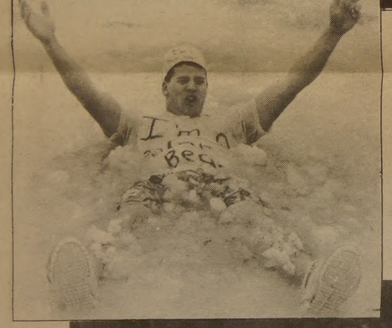
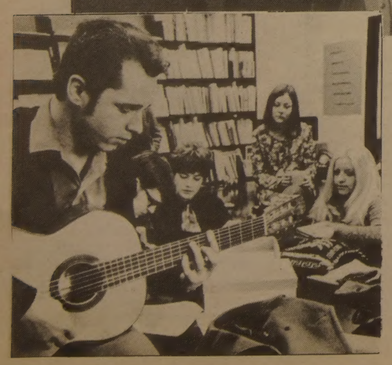
SATURDAY, OCT. 16





Photos are from the Niagara College archives. Many are not identified so if you know who is in the pictures, the occasion and what year, please let us know.

Schedule of Events

12 Noon ***Annual Meeting***
in the Student Centre.

1 p.m. ***Registration***
starts in the Student Centre and continues all afternoon. Sign in and pick up your name tag. The Message Board will be in the Student Centre and the refreshment booth will be open. Don't forget to bring your business cards so we can display them - a great way to network.

1 to 5 p.m. ***Nostalgia Time in the Library***
with displays of memorabilia, yearbooks, videos, Niagara News and lots of photographs. Many have no identification so come in and see if you can help us put names to the faces.

1:30 p.m. ***Euchre Tournament***
starts in the Student Centre. Pre-registration is required and spaces are limited so sign up early.

4:30 p.m. ***Exhibition Hockey Game -***
Niagara College versus Buffalo State University at the Welland Arena on King Street. Tickets are available at the arena.

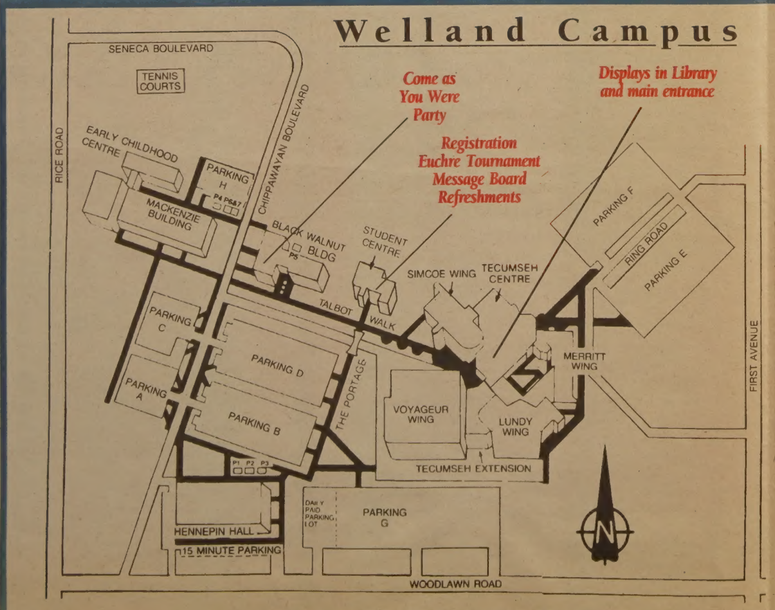
6:00 p.m. ***"Come as You Were" Party***
kicks off with Happy Hour in the Cafeteria, Black Walnut Building. Tickets at $25 per person must be purchased in advance. See order form below.

7:00 p.m. ***Dinner***
with a hot and cold buffet catered by Eddy's Place.

9:00 p.m. ***Dancing the Night Away***
starts with Stu Black as our D.J. Stu is co-ordinator of our Broadcasting, Radio, Television and Film program. There will be lots of prizes for best costumes in each decade, dance contests, spot dances and door prizes.

Campus Map

Welland Campus



Order Form

☐ ***Yes, I'm coming to Homecoming '93***

☐ I will attend the Annual Meeting.

☐ Sign me up for the Euchre Tournament. Registration fee is $2 per person. Competition starts at 1:30 p.m. in the Student Centre.

☐ I have memorabilia which I will loan and/or donate to the College and will take the items to the Learning Resource Centre (Library).

☐ I have item(s) to donate for grab bags or door prizes. Contact the Alumni office to make arrangements.

☐ I want tickets to the *"Come as you Were"* Party (includes Happy Hour, Dinner and Dancing. There will be a cash bar).
My payment of $_____ is enclosed to cover the cost of _____ tickets at $25 per person. Make cheques payable to Niagara College Foundation.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

Province _____ Postal Code _____ Tel. _____ Fax. _____

Program _____ Year Graduated _____

Return to: Sophie Aggelonitis, Niagara College Foundation, P.O. Box 20162, Grantham Postal Outlet, St. Catharines, Ont. Tel: (416) 988-5211 Fax: (416) 641-2611

Graduates are 'Red Hot' in the restaurant world

Perhaps the most anxious time of a young person's life comes when they are forced to choose a career path.

Well, you don't have to remind Gus Vogiatzis of his high school days.

"I was really scared at that time because I had no idea what kind of career I wanted to get into," he said. "Then my high school guidance counsellor told me that the Hotel and Restaurant Administration program at Niagara College was right up my alley."

As it turns out, Vogiatzis' high school guidance counsellor was right and he and his partner, Amiel Chios, now own and operate two of the busiest restaurants and bars in St. Catharines.

The Red Hot Chili Pepper Bar & Grill, located at One St. Paul St., and Lina Linguini's at the Ridley Square, enjoy a steady flow of customers every day.

Although it takes a lot of hard work, a few good breaks, and a keen business sense, Niagara gave Vogiatzis the foundation he needed to be successful when entering the business world.

Gus Vogiatzis and Amiel Chios

"The College program was a definite stepping stone," he said. "Some of the classes taught the basic business practices needed in starting up a restaurant. Learning things like taxation, business law, economics and accounting are all very important for this type of business."

Vogiatzis didn't, however, step into ownership upon leaving the College.

After graduating in 1987, Vogiatzis spent the next two years in restaurants throughout St. Catharines and Niagara Falls. He worked as a waiter, a bartender, an assistant manager and a manager before becoming an owner/operator.

It's obvious that spending time in each position enabled him to more effectively run his own business.

"Instead of a normal eight-hour shift, a manager's shift would last up to 14-hours a day, and that was before I became my own boss," he said, pointing out that he sometimes spends in excess of that between his two operations.

Vogiatzis and Chios (Air Conditioning and Refrigeration '88) opened the Red Hot Chili Pepper in the fall of 1990 and since that time have enjoyed being one of the most popular night spots in the Peninsula.

In these hard economic times, many businesses find themselves closing their doors, even those which have been around for a number of years. Yet the Chili Pepper always seems to be busy.

"I can never really pin it (success) down to one answer," he said. "Rather than just letting something work, we make minor alterations, changes, not letting it work exactly the same forever - people get bored of the same old thing."

Vogiatzis also stressed the need for atmosphere, personal touches and advertising.

Lina Linguini's, not even one year old, seems to be following in the same footsteps as the Red Hot Chili Pepper.

Although a new restaurant, the flow of customers is indicative of Vogiatzis' work ethic. The Italian eatery serves nothing but home-made pasta, which is most appreciated by its customers.

After spending three years and countless hours on two endeavors, Vogiatzis and Chios are reaping the benefits.

But for both, there is no time for relaxing - at least not yet. Their minds, bodies and souls are working overtime for yet another business endeavor, but they're not exactly sure what it will be.

Vogiatzis, however, is sure of one thing - he's come a long way from that high school student wondering what the heck he's going to do with the rest of his life.

Taste of fame comes early

It didn't take long for 1992 Interior Design student Katrina Ferguson to enjoy a taste of fame.

Ferguson was presented with an Honorable Mention Award in the religious and educational facilities category during the Association of Registered Interior Designers of Ontario (ARIDO) Student Design Competition held Nov. 21, 1992 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

"I was very surprised," she said. "It came through the mail when I wasn't expecting it. I thought it was just one of those letters thanking me for participating in the show."

Interior Design instructor Ron Patrick was not surprised at Ferguson's success in the show.

"She was a very thorough designer, interested in the project work she did, and she went beyond what many students were expected to do," Patrick said.

Three students from Niagara College participated in the annual show.

Ferguson's entry was based on a thesis project called Heritage and Cultural Centre.

The project included a museum, a cafeteria, a classroom, storage, and administrative area.

Ferguson has also been accepted into ARIDO as a provisional member.

David Winters, program co-ordinator, said all graduates from a recognized school are accepted for membership into the association.

"The provisional membership situation is for four years, after which the candidate must write an exam to qualify as full member," Winters said.

"It's a combination of academic and field experience adding up to seven years."

The National Council for Interior Design qualification is recognized by all associations in both Canada and the U.S., said Winters.

A resident of Jarvis, Ont., Ferguson, single, is working as a designer with Fourth Lane Cabinets in Simcoe, Ont.

She said the Interior Design program at Niagara gave her enough preparation for her present profession.

"The course elements I studied at Niagara are really helping me to get along in my work," she said.

"I do a lot of layout, and that's what I learned most in College."

For students who will graduate from the program this year, Ferguson urged them not to despair.

"I know it'll be hard for a little while, but get your resumes done professionally, she said. "Get out and go anywhere - there's always someone waiting for you somewhere."

Do you remember the 1974-75 curling team?

Back row, left: D. Gauthier, K. McNulty, A. Shields, J. George, W. Piovesan, A. Mercier, W. Bach. Front row left: R. LaRoche, C. Martin, L. Demers. Does anyone know where these people are today? Help us find them.

Dreams are becoming a reality for Carri Emerick

It's one thing to dream of doing something in life and yet another to realize it.

For Carri Emerick, all of her dreams are coming true.

But during her two years (1985-86) in the Journalism-Print program, Emerick made quite a mark on the College, thus proving merely dreaming about something is not enough.

Emerick was the first student to sit on the College Board of Governor's and was the vice-president of external affairs on the Student Administrative Council. She was instrumental in the first Women's Week at the College as well hosting the annual Shinerama Cystic Fibrosis fundraiser and several blood donor clinics.

Today, Emerick is in Banff, Alberta, supervising a staff of six for Guenther, a landscaping company which looks after national parks.

"I like the job here, but it's not really something I wanted to do in my life," she said. "I really wanted to enrol in the Broadcasting program at the College, but at the time it was full; so I ended up taking Journalism-Print."

But she's not complaining, because her present job "gets me travelling all over the world, and that's what I wanted to do - see the world."

And indeed she has.

While living on a farm in Japan for six months, Emerick attained one of her life-long dreams when she climbed to the top of Mt. Fuji, Japan's highest, and one of the most photographed mountains in the world.

"It was one of my greatest experiences in life," she said. "All my life I had dreamt of climbing up that mountain, and when I finally got up there, there was this sensational, incredible feeling you have after realizing something you've wanted all your life."

Carri Emerick at the market in Seoul, Korea.

Emerick also spent time in Bangkok, Thailand and Seoul, Korea recently and taught English as a Second Language in Bangkok for three months "to make ends meet."

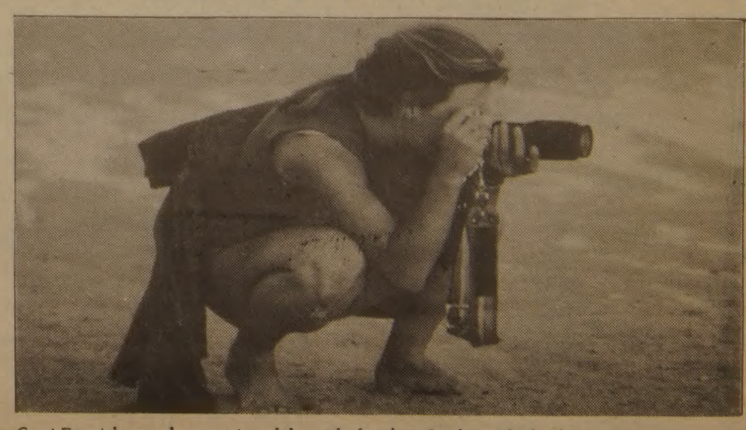
But Bangkok was not all fun and games.

"It's a crazy city to live in," she said. "There are too many people and so many things happening. It's a dangerous city, too."

Emerick, however, hasn't given up on another dream - the dream of being involved in the film industry.

She is spending the summer in Vancouver writing screenplays - hoping to catch a break, thus realizing yet another dream.

"I don't think people should follow established paths," she said. "It's one thing to dream of doing something and yet another to realize it. Follow your dream to a certain extent, but don't think that's all there is life."



Carri Emerick records memories while on the beach in Southern Thailand.

The Niagara Network

1974

Delaney, Rachel (Kotyk-Adams) - Interior Design.
Rachel is the district agency manager of State Farm Insurance Companies and invites all alumni to contact her if they are interested in a career change with a fabulous opportunity to be their own boss.

1975

Cancellara, Maria (Ricciuto) - Nursing.
Maria is a nurse at the Hotel Dieu Hospital in St. Catharines.

1976

Bove, Tony - Business Administration.
Tony is employed at the Niagara Falls Review as the Advertising Manager.

Brien, Donna (House) - Nursing.
Donna is a nurse at the McMaster University Medical Centre and lives in Grimsby.

1977

Epp, Diane (Belcombe) - Dental Assistant.
Diane also completed the Dental Hygiene program in 1978 and is a dental hygienist in St.Catharines.

White-Burstyn, Sheila - Tourism - Tours and Attractions.
Sheila is the co-owner of Toys Ahoy. She is married and has four-year-old twins.

1978

Mitchell, Susan - Tourism - Tours and Attractions.
Susan is self-employed and would like to get in touch with her classmates or people who lived in the "Kormendy House" through the storms of 1977 and 1978.

Duhamel, Nancy (Parsons) - Health Records Technician.
Nancy is a health records technician at the Queensway General Hospital in Etobicoke.

Monteith, Dan - Survey Technician.
Dan is working at the St. Lawrence Seaway and has just received his C.E.T. (Certified Engineering Technician) certification.

1979

Foote, Lynne (Winger) - Social Service Worker.
Lynne is married with a three-year-old daughter and is a counsellor with Community Living, Algoma.

1980

Brown, Charlotte (Miller) - Office Administration.
Charlotte has been employed as an accountant and went back to study Business Administration at Brock University. She was recently married and is expecting her second child.

Duncan, Tammy - Broadcasting - Radio, Television and Film.
Tammy is married and has a son. She is employed by the Niagara Regional Police Force as a police communicator, dispatching and answering routine and emergency calls on 911.

Pertout, Susan (Waite) - Early Childhood Education.
Susan lives in London, Ontario and is employed at the University of Western Ontario.

1981

Beyer, Richard - Computer Programmer.
Richard is working at Boehrigner Ingelheim and lives in Grimsby.

Dreyer, Kathy (Klassen) - Nursing.
Kathy and husband John have three children. Kathy has been working in Emergency at Brantford General Hospital since 1981.

Gascon, Sherry - Legal Assistant (Co-op).
Sherry is working with the Ministry of Natural Resources and "would like to communicate with some of her classmates: Betty Arcaro, Collette Dubois, Fiona Stewart, Donna, Janet and the rest of the gang."

Villella, Marina - Social Service Worker.
Marina is employed with Big Brothers and Sisters Association.

1982

McDowell, Sue (Mingle) - Retail Management (Co-op).
Sue is the director of marketing at the Inn by the Falls and is living in Niagara Falls.

1983

Ujfalussy, Diane - Journalism - Print.
Diane is employed at the Welland Tribune as a reporter. She is also the publicity chairperson for the Welland Branch, Red Cross.

1984

Davis, Gail - Business - Accounting.
Gail is living in Burlington and is employed with the Ministry of Finance as an Auditor - Employer Health Tax.

1986

Adams, Carolyn - Human Relations.
Carolyn is working at the United Way of South Niagara.

Hoffman, Susanne - Nursing.
Susanne is living in Tanzania, Africa and is running a maternity clinic for the local community. She continued her studies after graduating from Niagara and attended the University of Western Ontario.

Marshall, Brad - Mechanical Engineering Technology.
Brad is employed with Inco Ltd. in Port Colborne and is the preventive maintenance co-ordinator and welding superviser.

1987

Biro, Susan - Law and Security Administration.
Susan is employed with the Ontario Provincial Police as a civilian radio operator and lives in Waterloo.

1988

Buchwald, Darlene (Klassen) - Nursing.
Darlene is a nurse at Norfolk General Hospital. She and husband Bradley have two sons, her second was born on April 9, 1993.

Raso, Evelyne (Tihon) - Bilingual Secretary.
Eveylne is married to John Raso, Computer Technology graduate, 1988. Evelyne and John were married in 1989 and live in Hamilton. Evelyne works at Arbell Industries and John works at Tundra Software.

1989

Topp, Denise - Business Administration - Accounting.
Denise lives in Ottawa and is employed with the Department of National Defence.

1990

Pratt-Baker, Kimberley - Interior Design.
Kimberley is presently a partner at the Interior Design Firm, Design Associates Inc., located in St. Johns, Newfoundland and lives in Mount Pearl, Newfoundland.

Friesen, Carrie - Business Administration.
Carrie is employed with Aquatic Sciences in Virgil.

Mimms, Marvin - Business Administration, Accounting.
Marvin is employed with Arkell Foods Ltd. in Niagara Falls.

Paonessa, Luisa - Dental Assistant.
Luisa is employed with Dr. Marotta as a dental asistant in Welland.

1991

Stec, Peter - Broadcast-Radio, Television and Film.
Peter is a studio camera operator involved in production of one of Canada's daily TV programs. He has been married since July 1992, and has a new house.

Yungblut, Melvin - Construction Engineering Technology.
Melvin is working at A.W. Hooker Association Ltd. and has received his certification as a Professional Quantity Surveyor.

1992

Hedge, Dana - Law and Security Administration.
Dana is employed with the Skylon Tower in Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Price, David - Law and Security Administration.
David is employed with Diapers Direct in Hamilton.

We're still looking for Lost Alumni

Allan, Brian - 1981 Electrical Engineering Technician

Augustine, Gaeline - 1982 Social Service Worker

Balthazaar, Pius - 1984 Electrical Engineering Technician

Barr, Debra-Ann - 1981 Theatre Arts

Basnett, Gary - 1989 Survey Technician

Bath, Lisa - 1980 Ambulance and Emergency Care

Biggar, James - 1977 Business Administration - Operations Management

Ceci, Dennis - 1977 Graphic Arts Technician

Charette, Jane - 1987 Legal Assistant

Curley, Eleanor - 1986 Tourism - Tours and Attractions

De Jong, Monique - 1981 Tourism - Tours and Attractions

Dello, Carey - 1981 Dental Hygiene

Dunn, Susan - 1981 Office Administration - General

Emminger, Marita - 1987 Early Childhood Education

Flaxy, Lori - 1987 Journalism - Print

Ford, John - 1977 Hotel and Restaurant Administration

Freeman, Percy - 1991 Law and Security Administration

Gapp, Laurie - 1987 Early Childhood Education

Genzer, Jeffrey - 1989 Law and Security Administration

Hall, Christopher - 1987 Computer Programmer

Hopkins, Joanna - 1989 Educational Resources and Special Needs

Irving, Christopher - 1992 Marine Cook

Jacobsen, Ruth - 1979 General College

Jarvis, Colleen - 1985 Nursing

Kennedy, Owen - 1988 Business Administration - Marketing

Kerr, Thomas - 1980 Construction Engineering Technology - Architecture

Landry, Rene - 1975 Survey Technician

Lott, Chris - 1984 Hotel and Restaurant Administration

Mallory, Mark - 1988 Business Administration - Human Resources Management

Mathias, Elizabeth - 1978 Journalism - Print

Meierhoff, Ann - 1992 Human Relations

Newton, William - 1985 Electronics Engineering Technology

Orosz, Beverly - 1977 Educational Resources and Special Needs

Pate, Julie - 1977 Business - Sales

Pfilf, Barbara - 1985 Health Records Technician

Porteus, Catherine - 1978 Library Technician

Ranieri, Steve - 1980 Mechanical Engineering Technology

Riegle, Carol - 1988 General College

Rose, Ian - 1975 Social Service Worker

Ryan, Shelley - 1990 Nursing

Sammon, Anne Marie - 1990 Early Childhood Education

Shaw, Karen - 1982 Dental Hygiene

Steele, Karen - 1992 Broadcasting - Radio, Television and Film

Tardif, John - 1987 Chemical Engineering Technology

Torzsas, Carmen - 1986 Health Care Aide

Unrau, Donna - 1980 Horticultural Technician

Volpatti, Julia - 1987 Office Administration - General

Walker, Marcie - 1989 General College - Fine Arts Option

Young, Gillian - 1984 Fashion Merchandising/Visual Promotions

Zimmerman, Linda - 1977 Dental Hygiene

Zwier, Michael - 1990 Business Administration - Information Systems

Another "lost" graduate found!

Name: _____

Previous Surname: _____

Program and year graduated: _____

Home address: _____

_____

Telephone number: _____

Occupation: _____

Company name: _____

Could we announce where you are living and working in ALUMNIAGARA?
Yes: _____ No: _____

Please clip and forward this coupon to:

Niagara College Foundation Office
P.O. Box 20162
GranthamPostal Outlet
St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada
L2M 7W7

Pursuant to Section 41 (a) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, I hereby consent to use the following information for the purpose of alumni-related activities.

Signature: _____

We need volunteers!

Over the next few years the Executive of your Alumni Association will be organizing a wide range of activities to benefit fellow graduates, the Association and the College.

We will need your help if we are to be successful.

Help plan Homecoming or other social events. Help organize and staff a bingo, Monte Carlo nights, or other fund raising activities. Help increase employment opportunities for Niagara College graduates through networking. Help govern the Alumni Association. These are just a few of the things you can do.

Sign up now!! Just return the coupon below and we'll be in touch with you. Many thanks.

Name: _____ Program/year: _____
Address: _____

I would like to get involved in the following activities:

Phone Number: _____

Send to: Niagara College Alumni Office
P.O. Box 21062
Grantham Postal Outlet
St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada L2M 7W7

Make contact with other alumni

Are you looking to get in touch with one of your old classmates?

At last year's Homecoming, a Message Board was set up in the cafeteria and proved to be quite popular.

Many alumni left messages for their "old buddies" and were able to catch up with them either at the Homecoming or sometime shortly after.

For Homecoming '93 you will have plenty of time to submit your message. We'll be happy to post your message even if you can't make it to this year's Homecoming. The Message Board will be located in the Student Centre where you will register.

Simply fill out the form on the right and submit it to: Alumni Office, Niagara College, P.O. Box 20162, Grantham Postal Outlet, St. Catharines, Ontario, L2M 7W7.

Alumni Message

Niagara College Homecoming

To: _____

Year of graduation: _____

Program: _____

Message: _____

_____

_____

From: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Niagara has some new programs

Environmental Management, a one-year, post-diploma program starts this fall at the Welland Campus. Graduates may seek employment as environmental managers or co-ordinators, recycling co-ordinators, waste reduction specialists and in auditing corporate greening, environmental sales and related careers. Contact The Centre for Environmental Training at (416) 641-2252, ext. 4018.

International Trade, also a one year post-diploma program was introduced last fall and is running again this year. Offered jointly by Niagara College and Niagara County Community College in Sanborn, N.Y., the program includes Canadian and American content. For more information contact Dave Taylor, co-ordinator at 735-2211, ext. 7795.

Graduates of the **Nursing Assistant** program will be capable of working in the health field in a variety of capacities including homes for the aged. The 36-week program is offered at the Mack Nursing Education Centre in St. Catharines. Contact Marg Fast, co-ordinator at (416) 688-5310.

A new **Manufacturing Leadership Certificate** program starts this fall for individuals who have recently assumed the role of supervisor in a manufacturing environment or those who are aspiring supervisors.

The six-credit program, through the Continuing Education department, has been developed through a four-way venture among the Canadian Manufacturers' Association (CMA) with Niagara, Mohawk and Sheridan Colleges. Contact Art Domenicucci at (416) 735-2211, ext. 7524.

If you haven't taken a look at the Continuing Education calendar recently, check it out. There are more than 400 courses in arts, business, general, science and technology with 61 seminars and 72 certificate programs. Contact Continuing Education at (416) 735-2211, ext. 7510.

Check out your closet

What did you wear when you were a student at Niagara College?

This year's Homecoming is geared around the four decades that Niagara has been educating students: the Sixties, Seventies, Eighties and Nineties. We're encouraging everyone to dress the same way they did when they were a student here.

If you were here in the late Sixties or the early Seventies, then you're in luck because the fashion cycle has come all the way around again. Magazines are full of palazzo pants, bell bottoms, tunic tops, mini-skirts and even micro-minis. You can even buy love beads, clothes in psychedelic colors and granny glasses.

Some of the other trends over the years have included jump suits, platform shoes, unisex outfits and overalls.

If you come in costume it will be easier for your friends to recognize you and you might win one of the prizes to be awarded for best costume in each decade. The judging will be done at the *"Come as You Were"* Party.

If in doubt, the official uniform of most students everywhere is totally acceptable - blue jeans. Be there - don't be square.

What have you been up to lately?

Use ALUMNIAGARA to keep in touch with old friends. Please tell us what you've been doing recently - or since graduation.

- Have you married?
- Had any children?
- Started a new career or received a promotion?
- Moved to distant parts?
- Have you won an award or honor or done something you want to crow about?
- Do you want to pass on a message to a friend or classmate through the paper?
- Or do you simply have something you want to tell others?

Niagara Network is your alumni bulletin board. Use it to communicate with thousands of fellow graduates. All you have to do is fill out the response card below . . . and we'll do the rest. Let's hear from you!!!

Name: _____ Program/year: _____
Address: _____

I am employed by: _____
Phone number Day: _____ Evening: _____

☐ I've enclosed a photo which you may publish if there is room
My message: _____

_____

_____

_____

Niagara Network, c/o Alumni Office, P.O. Box 21062, Grantham Postal Outlet, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada, L2M 7W7

Room discounts for Homecoming

Those travelling to attend Homecoming '93 are eligible for discount rates at the Comfort Inn (formerly called Journey's End), located at 870 Niagara St., Welland. It is just a few minutes drive from the campus.

For reservations call (416) 732-4811 and ask for Dana Ambrosia. Just tell Dana you are coming for the Niagara College Homecoming celebrations and a discount will be arranged.

This publication was produced as a joint effort between the Niagara College Foundation/Alumni Office and the Marketing and Communications department.

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Note: area code changes to 905 effective Oct. '93